

Entry
approved
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AMENDMENT

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MERTE.Y3-18

CLEAN VERSION

Kindly replace the specification with the clean version supplied below.

SELF- INFLATING RECLINING MAT

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority from PCT/DE2002/002304, filed June 22, 2002, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a self-inflating reclining-mat or cushion of a type which is made of open-cell material airtightly covered on opposite sides with fabric layers, the covering layers being edge welded to each other, one or more valves being employed to connect the foam material with ambient atmosphere.

Mats are known with light weave and pre-coating with solvents of poly urethane and at least two coating layers, as a rule of polyurethane films, the outer coating layer being formed as a lower-melting adhesive system (U.S. Patent 4,624,877). These mats consist of two layers of this coated fabric, between which a light foam material is inwardly adhered, the edges of the coated fabric being welded. This airtight mat is then blown up through a valve. The maximum thickness of the mat is limited by the thickness of the foam, due to the full-surface adhesion. With the valve closed, this mat is very pressure-stable and has good insulating behavior, in spite of a small foam thickness. For this reason it is very light, and hikers and mountain climbers are very pleased to use it. It is very comfortable.

In order for the weld seams withstand high pressure, a pre-coating with solvent has to be applied to the fabric. This pre-coating on the one hand damages the fabric in